



This report is produced by OCHA Myanmar in collaboration with humanitarian partners, and with inputs from the Myanmar National Natural Disaster Management Committee (NDMC). It was issued by OCHA. It covers the period from 15 August to 21 August (22:00, UTC+6:30). On preceding discussions with the Emergency Operations Centre, this is likely the last issue of OCHA Situation Report on Myanmar Flood Response.

## Highlights

- More than 1.6 million people have been critically affected by floods and landslides during July and August. A cumulative number of 384,905 households have been or remain displaced.
- Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessments (MIRA) have been conducted in 850 locations in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing.
- The Government has formed a Recovery Coordination Committee (RRC) on 10 August and developed a recovery strategy/plan that covers both early and long-term recovery activities to ensure rapid recovery and better strengthen the resilience of disaster affected communities.

**1.6 million**

critically flood affected people in July and August

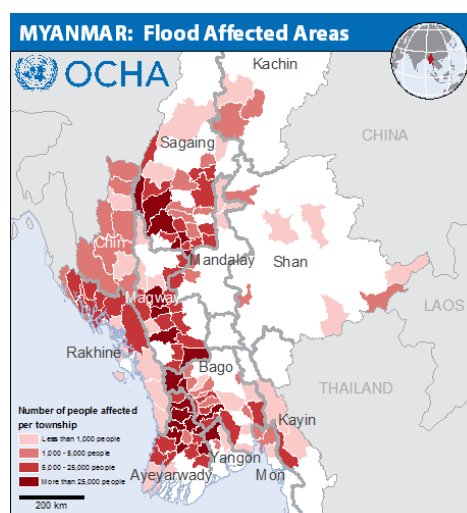
**972,000+**

Acres of farmland damaged

**384,900**

cumulative number of households displaced

Figures according to NDMC as of 24:00 UTH 20 August 2015.



Map sources: RRD, MIMU  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
Map creation date: 20 August 2015

## Situation Overview

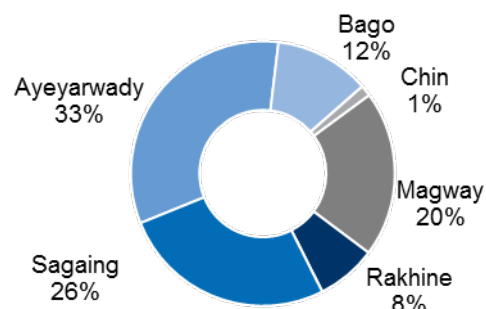
As of 20 August, the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) reports that over 1,615,000 people have been severely affected by floods and landslides in July and August. This includes a cumulative number of 384,905 households that have been, or remain, temporarily displaced during this period. At least 117 people are confirmed to have killed due to floods and landslides since June.

While flood waters have receded in many areas, many roads and bridges in the affected areas were substantially damaged or are covered with mud and debris, posing a challenge for ongoing relief and recovery operations. In some areas where flood waters are receding, people have started to return home, however, some remain in evacuation centres as their homes and roads are covered in mud and sediment after flood waters retreated. According to the Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD), as of 20 August, over 270 evacuation centres remain open in Ayeyarwady Region where over 500,000 people have been affected. RRD reports that the highest numbers of affected people are recorded in Ayeyarwady (505,761), Sagaing (399,567) and Magway (308,046) regions.

The Government continues to lead the emergency response while the government-led recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction mechanisms are being strengthened to ensure that recovery planning lays the foundation for longer term development. To this end, the government has formed a Recovery Coordination Committee (RRC), chaired by the Union Minister of the Ministry of Construction, on 10 August to develop a recovery action plan that covers both early and long-term recovery activities.

Local authorities, the military, volunteers, as well as Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and civil society organizations, individual donors and the private sector continue to play an important part in both relief response and proceeding recovery efforts. As of 17 August, the NDMC has spent over US\$31 million on relief and

Ratio of flood affected people by state and region



+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

rehabilitation activities. Over the past weeks, the government is scaling up its efforts to restore/rehabilitate infrastructures in the affected states/regions, including rebuilding/repairing roads and bridges, education and health facilities, cleaning up of wells, ponds and water sources with participation from communities.

According to the Farmland Management and Statistics Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, more than 1.4 million acres of farmlands have been inundated from June to August, with more than 658,000 acres destroyed (including 217,246 acres in Rakhine State). In an effort to support food security and rebuild rural livelihoods in flood affected areas, over 232,162 acres of farmlands have been replanted with provision of paddy seeds and equipment. According to the Government, 29,108 baskets of paddy seeds were delivered to Rakhine State where 169,872 acres of farmlands have been replanted. The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development distributed feedstuff and veterinary medicines in Ayeyarwady and Bago regions.

Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessments (MIRA) have been conducted in 850 locations of 34 townships in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing, covering close to 200,000 people. The preliminary findings indicate that of these, more than 128,000 people have been or remain displaced in these locations. The assessed people reported food, drinking water and seed stocks for cultivation as their priority needs. The detailed analysis of assessment data by cluster/sector is being carried out to inform needs analysis and response planning.

## Funding

Total funding recorded for the flood response in the Financial Tracking Service as of 21 August is \$24 million including \$ 9 million from the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund to kick start critical life-saving activities. The largest donors that have made contributions towards the floods response include the United States, Japan, Australia, Canada, Norway, the European Commission, Italy, Bangladesh and the United Kingdom. Other Member States, donors and private sector have announced contributions or indicated their intention to allocate resources towards the response and recovery activities.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org) All in-kind donations should be reported and tracked via [logik@un.org](mailto:logik@un.org).

## Humanitarian Response

### Education

#### Needs:

- As of 21 August, approximately 250,000 children in learning facilities are affected by flood across states and regions.
- The initial assessment results indicated urgent needs for repair and rehabilitation of damaged learning facilities, as well as provision of essential teaching/ learning supplies.
- The priority is to immediately restore access to essential education services in safe and protective learning spaces for all children whose education has been disrupted.
- In support of the early recovery efforts, context-relevant life-skills programme, including disaster risk reduction and psycho-social support, in both formal and non-formal education is critical to ensure well-being and strengthen the resilience of flood affected children and their communities.

**3,000**  
flood affected schools  
need rehabilitation

#### Response:

- The Ministry of Education has been providing school stationary to the flood-affected children and is also planning to provide cash assistance for rehabilitation of almost 3,000 flood affected schools across the country.
- The State Education Department and the Education Sector Partners are planning to distribute approximately 4,400 essential learning supplies, 38 recreational kits and 60 teacher kits to children in the most affected areas in Rakhine State. In Ann, Kyauktaw, Minbya and Mrauk-U townships, 9,000 affected-children were supported with exercise books.
- Renovation of 70 temporary learning spaces in IDP camps, host and surrounding communities in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships has started.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of resources limits the scale of response and recovery support by education sector partners in flood affected areas.
- In Chin State, provision of essential education supplies to affected children remains a challenge due to access constraints.
- Coordination with local civil-society organizations operating in flood affected areas across states and regions needs to be further strengthened.



## Food Security

### Needs:

- As of 19 August, 451,000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance in Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine states, and Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, and Sagaing regions.
- According to the Government, over 1.4 million acres of farmland have been inundated from June to August. More than 658,000 acres of rice paddy and other crops were destroyed while over 972,000 acres of farmlands were damaged across flood-affected states and regions. Rakhine State was reported as the most severely affected, followed by Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing. Damage to crops and arable land is likely to disrupt the planting season and pose a risk to long-term food security.
- Initial figures from the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development indicate that an estimated 20,000 livestock were lost in Rakhine State.

# 403,000

people reached with  
food assistance

### Response:

- As of 19 August, Food Security Sector partners have reached some 403,000 people with over 2,400 metric tons of life-saving food assistance in Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine states, and Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing regions.
- The Food Security Sector has scaled up its coverage areas with food supplies transported to previously inaccessible areas, including Falam, Kanpetlet and Mindat townships in Chin State. With seeds and machinery support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, 232,162 acres of farmlands have been replanted.
- In collaboration with the Government and the Early Recovery Network, the Food Sector partners continue to conduct a joint-assessment to identify major damage and losses in agriculture sector and its sub-sectors, including crop production, livestock, forestry, fisheries/aquaculture as well as irrigation. The assessment will also evaluate the food security and nutrition situation, the level of vulnerability of the affected population and their coping mechanisms as well as the extent of disruption on local markets. Based on the assessment results, short, medium and long-term (three, six and 12 months respectively) response interventions plans will be developed.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- An estimated 48,000 flood affected people are still in need of immediate food assistance.
- As the existing food stocks were depleted, resources are urgently required to ensure uninterrupted food assistance.
- Further assistance such as seeds, equipment, agricultural loans is still needed to rebuild rural livelihoods.
- Immediate needs appear to be relatively well covered by local assistance, and support provided by the Government, local organizations and international community. However, medium and long-term needs will arise due to the extent of damage and losses in the agriculture and livelihoods sectors.



## Health

### Needs:

- Over 1.4 million people across flood affected areas need access to health services.
- According to the Ministry of Health, 285 health facilities have been partially damaged by floods and landslides in 38 townships in Chin, Rakhine and Shan states, and Ayeyarwady, Bago and Magway regions.
- Restoration of health facilities and reproductive health services is urgently needed in flood affected areas.
- Lack of trained health professional, particularly female health personnel, hinders adequate provision of reproductive and basic healthcare services in flood affected areas.

### Response:

- The Ministry of Health is providing basic health services through 340 mobile clinics and 1,059 temporary clinics.
- The Ministry and Health Sector partners are monitoring the outbreaks as well as taking preventive measures against waterborne diseases while efforts are ongoing to restore health facilities across flood affected areas.
- The Health Cluster has provided US\$265,000 to support the continuation of mobile health clinics and temporary health clinics, organized by the Ministry of Health. An additional \$200,000 is in the pipeline to support the Ministry of Health to extend healthcare services in the flood affected areas.
- The Emergency Reproductive Health Kits, including 425 Clean Delivery Kits, have been distributed in Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing. An additional 2,600 Clean Delivery Kits, injectable contraception, and medicines as well as basic and comprehensive obstetric care equipment have also been transported to flood affected areas through the Township Medical Officers and partners.
- MRCS is supporting medical referrals to hospitals and hygiene promotions across the affected areas.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- According to the Ministry of Health, approximately 25 per cent of direct affected populations still need health services and assistance.
- In early recovery phase, health facilities and equipment in flood affected areas need to be urgently reconstructed or replaced to ensure continuation of health care services to affected communities.
- In coordination with the Government, donors and Health Cluster partners, medium term recovery plan needs to be developed.
- Mental health and psycho-social support interventions need to be integrated into the ongoing health and reproductive health emergency responses.
- The Early Warning and Rapid Response Network disease outbreak control system needs to be strengthened and daily and weekly epidemiological reports need to be developed and shared with health partners by the Ministry of Health.



### Nutrition

#### Needs:

- Over 143,000 children under the age of five are estimated to be affected by the floods. Malnutrition is a major concern prior to the floods in affected areas particularly in Chin and Rakhine states, and Ayeyarwady and Magway regions where under-five children are vulnerable to malnutrition. In addition, an estimated 60,000 pregnant and lactating women are affected (based on approximately 1.5 million people affected overall).
- In Chin and Rakhine states, and Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing regions, due to compromised water sources, inadequate access to food, and negative coping mechanisms, it is anticipated that the nutritional status of children, which was poor prior to the emergency, could further deteriorate with an associated increase in mortality risks for children under five.

**143,000**

under-five children  
estimated to be  
affected by floods

#### Response:

- Nutrition Sector partners continue to support Government health staff with essential nutrition supplies in 21 flood affected townships in Chin and Rakhine states, and Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing regions, thereby strengthening the existing national capacities. Supplies include multiple micronutrients for children and women, as well as therapeutic food for treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM).
- As part of the 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan, nutrition partners continue to provide life-saving treatment of acute malnutrition (severe and moderate), micronutrient support, infant and young child feeding counseling and preventive nutrition-specific services in some of the flood affected townships.
- Information has been shared on the importance of appropriate infant feeding with emphasis on the fact that there should be no unsolicited donations of breast milk substitutes (BMS) and those donations should be monitored and reported to appropriate Government authorities.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- There is a need for additional information on the nutrition situation in some flood affected areas where no nutrition organizations are currently operating. Reports from inter-agency assessments will provide further information on needs.
- A lack of funding remains a challenge for preventative nutrition services, such as blanket supplementary feeding and micronutrient support in flood affected areas.



### Protection

#### Needs:

- On the basis of data produced by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, at least 200,000 women and girls of reproductive age are in need of assistance, including provision of dignity kits and access to reproductive health services.
- Women and girls in the most affected areas need dignity kits as well as reproductive health services.
- The joint assessment conducted by Protection partners in Rakhine State highlighted urgent need for psycho-social support for the affected children and families.
- The Rakhine State Education Department reports that school children who have no recreational facilities and/or are not able to attend school need psycho-social support.

**200,000+**

women and girls of  
reproductive age need  
assistance

## Response

- The Department of Social Welfare and Protection Sector partners are scaling up its efforts for increased provision of psycho-social support. Technical teams and social workers have been deployed to the most affected areas to provide mobile and outreach psycho-social and case management services, especially for women and children in Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing where coordination and mentoring systems as well as referral pathways are being established.
- In Sittwe Township, Rakhine State, more than 6,000 women and girls have benefited from psycho-social support and case management services through Women and Girls Centres and mobile health facilities.
- An additional 12,000 dignity kits and some medical supplies are being procured to support women and girls in the most affected townships of Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing.
- A joint Child Protection surge team has started the screening in eight evacuation centres in Hakha Township, Chin State, to identify separated children and others at risk.
- Protection key messages, including GVB specific messages are being delivered to the communities in target locations.
- The Protection sector continues to advocate for the use of cash transfers in emergency takes account of the particular needs of women, girls, people with disability and the elderly.

## Gaps & Constraints

- Limited information on townships with functioning health services hampers development of referral pathways for women and girls affected by violence.



## Shelter

### Needs:

- According to the Government, over 17,000 houses have been destroyed by floods and landslides, including over 10,000 in Rakhine State. The Shelter Cluster estimated that over 5,100 houses were destroyed in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing, Shan and Yagon.
- The greatest needs of shelter assistance have been identified in Rakhine State, with more than 3,500 houses destroyed in Buthidaung Township.
- IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix report for Rakhine indicates that 80 per cent of the people displaced during the floods have all returned within a week or more.
- In Chin State, almost 10,000 individual have been or remain displaced, with over 2,600 houses destroyed.

**10,000**  
emergency shelter  
distributed in the most  
affected areas

### Response:

- According to the Government, 34 temporary dwellings and 30 tents have been set up in Hakha Township, Chin State for people who lost their houses during floods and landslides.
- Shelter Cluster has distributed 10,000 emergency shelter kits in Ayeyarwady, Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing.
- The cluster's strategic focus is rapid provision of emergency shelter/household items and reconstruction of damaged/destroyed houses as part of wider early recovery efforts.

## Gaps & Constraints:

- Access to remote and isolated villages in affected areas remains difficult with roads covered by mud and sediment or damaged infrastructures.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs:

- The WASH Cluster is targeting 500,000 people at this stage with emergency water and sanitation interventions, focusing on Ayeyarwady, Chin, Rakhine and Sagaing. The planning figures are being reviewed/revise to reflect rapidly changing needs and as new areas become affected by floods.
- During the emergency response phase, WASH Cluster partners are focusing on prevention of waterborne diseases, through provision of emergency water supply and purification tablets.
- The WASH interventions will move towards early recovery in the coming months, with implementation of rehabilitation activities, including restoration of WASH infrastructures and facilities, particularly in schools and health centres, and hygiene promotion activities.

**500,000**  
people targeted with  
emergency WASH  
interventions



**Response:**

- The Ministry of Health has chlorinated 37,874 water sources, and distributed 267 drums of bleach, 3,430 treated bed nets, 28,800 chlorine tablets and 14,700 latrine pans in the affected states/regions.
- In an effort to strengthen the Government response capacity, WASH Cluster partners continues to support with supplies, including hygiene kits, purification tablets and bleaching materials.
- WASH Cluster partners have provided emergency latrines in evacuation centres and will support on pond rehabilitation in affected areas.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- There is a nationwide shortage of emergency household water treatment tablets/sachets.
- Water and sanitation rehabilitation equipment (e.g. dewatering pumps, machinery) is needed to start the recovery phase.
- Information management is yet to be consolidated through 3W to support analysis on critical WASH needs and prioritization. Assessments are still on-going to better target critical needs.
- A Government WASH plan is needed to ensure complementarity in targeting needs by the international community and local NGOs.
- Several remote locations in Chin State and Sagaing Region have not yet to be reached with WASH assistance.

**Communications with Communities****Needs:**

- All flood affected people are in need of information about early recovery, basic hygiene, and how to restore livelihoods.

**Response:**

- BBC Media Action and state broadcaster Myanmar Radio continue to produce two radio shows a week for communities in flood affected areas, repeated four times a week. The programmes are being broadcast to an estimated 8.2 million people within flood affected areas.
- Radio shows highlight community voices and concerns as well as important measures in early recovery stage such as how farmers can rehabilitate their fields, the importance of food hygiene and safe defecation.
- In addition to Myanmar language, programmes are being broadcast in other ethnic languages: Kachin, Chin (Hakha and Mindat), Kayin and Rakhine.
- MRCS is working with four local radio stations to provide safety advice and information about flood risks and assistance available to help reunite family members who were separated by the disaster. MRCS is also providing health lifeline information on a national TV station.

**8.2 million**people in flood  
affected areas reached  
by radio programmes**Gaps & Constraints**

- There is limited information about how many people have access to working radios or other media channels.

**Early Recovery****Needs:**

- The scope of the recovery action has been more limited in lower Myanmar, where the main focus remains on relief operations, as well as in less accessible parts of Chin and Rakhine states.

**Response:**

- Spontaneous early recovery efforts have commenced in areas of upper Myanmar where the water levels started to recede, with UN agencies and INGOs providing cash assistance and agricultural inputs to rebuild rural livelihoods.
- The Government has adopted a recovery strategy which prioritizes cash assistance as a preferred quick-impact modality and also takes into account particular needs of the most vulnerable groups.
- The Government has also established a Recovery Coordination Committee and is in the process of establishing a Recovery Coordination Centre which will function alongside the Emergency Operations Centre.

**Gaps and constraints:**

- In the coming weeks, it remains critical to expand the scope of recovery efforts across the country and to bring them to scale in all affected areas.

## General Coordination

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Since the establishment of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), the NDMC, the Relief and Resettlement Department and international partners continues to support data and information management, facilitate both emergency and recovery assessments and assist in coordination of effective relief and recovery operations.

On 18 August, the Government and the Early Recovery Network had a joint meeting to agree on priorities and actions on early recovery, including recovery needs assessments to be conducted in August-September, followed by a Recovery Planning Forum with participation of actors from the government, civil society, private sector and the international community.

Health Cluster partners proposed three staff from Ministry of Health to be seconded for six months to support early recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Chin, Magway and Sagaing.

Protection sector coordination including sub national coordination (and the identification of focal points) for Chin, Magway and Sagaing has been established and agreed. Partnerships with local organizations in flood affected areas are being established to ensure support is provided for the response in hard-to-reach areas.

At the request of the Rural Development Department, WASH cluster reports consolidated response through 3W format with participation from NGOs. A WASH Cluster Coordinator will be assigned for two weeks to support the response in Chin and Sagaing.

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**Background on the crisis**

Heavy rains have caused floods and landslides in several parts of the country during the last two weeks of July. Cyclone Komen, that made landfall in Bangladesh on 30 July, brought strong winds and heavy rains, further exacerbating monsoonal flooding and resulting in flash floods and landslides in 12 of Myanmar's states and regions. On 31 July, the President's Office announced Chin State, Sagaing Region, Magway Region and Rakhine State as natural disaster zones.

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